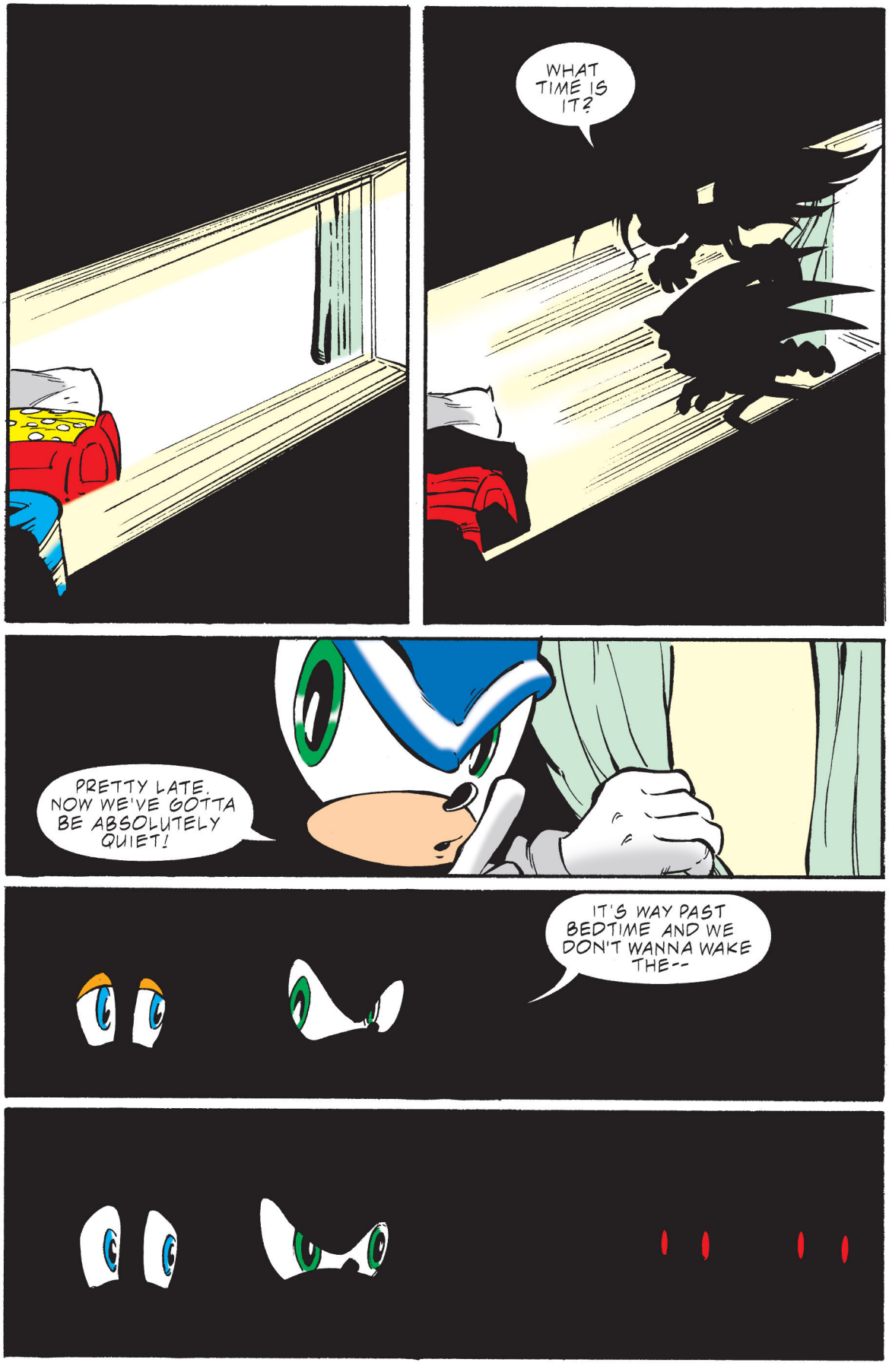
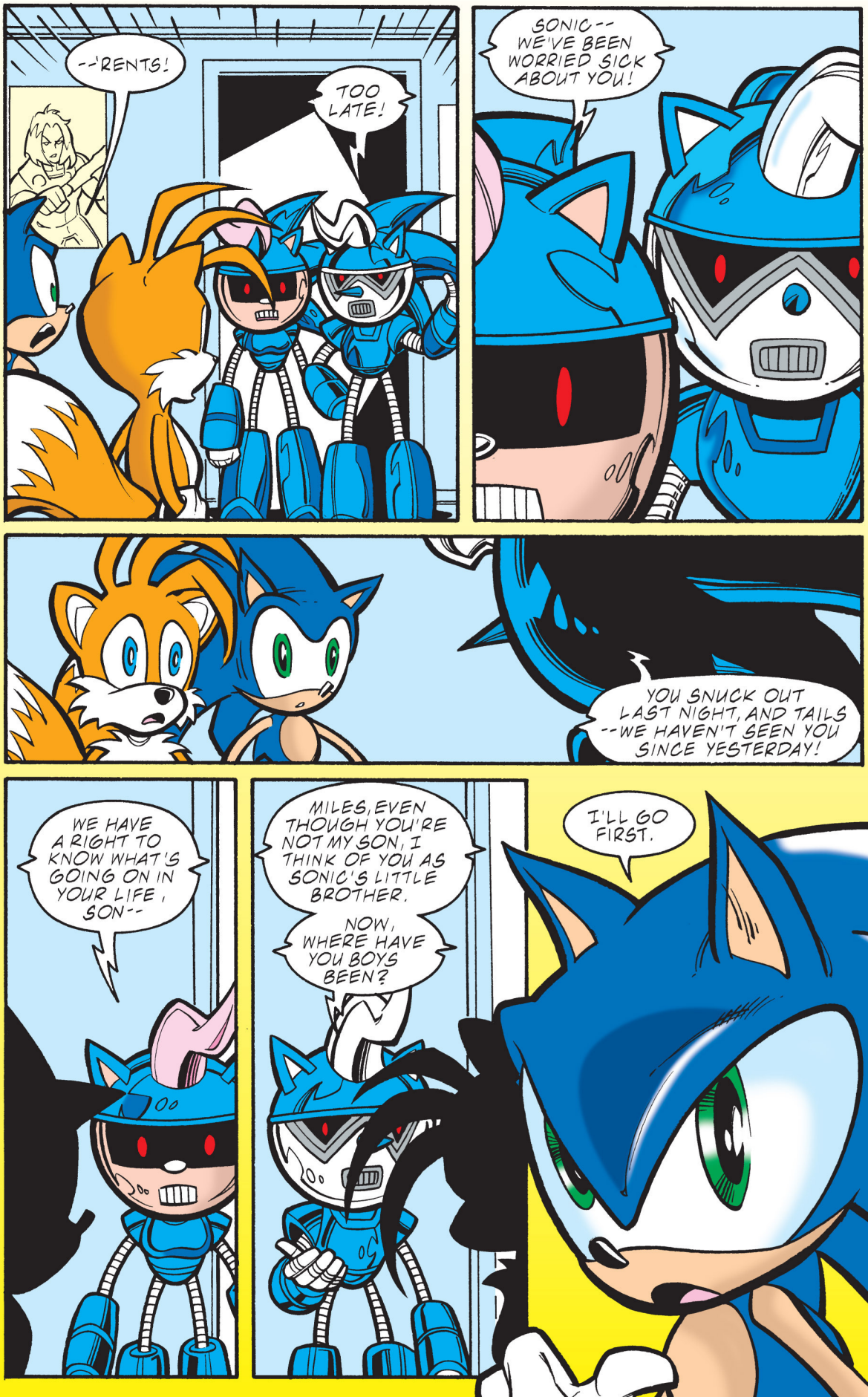
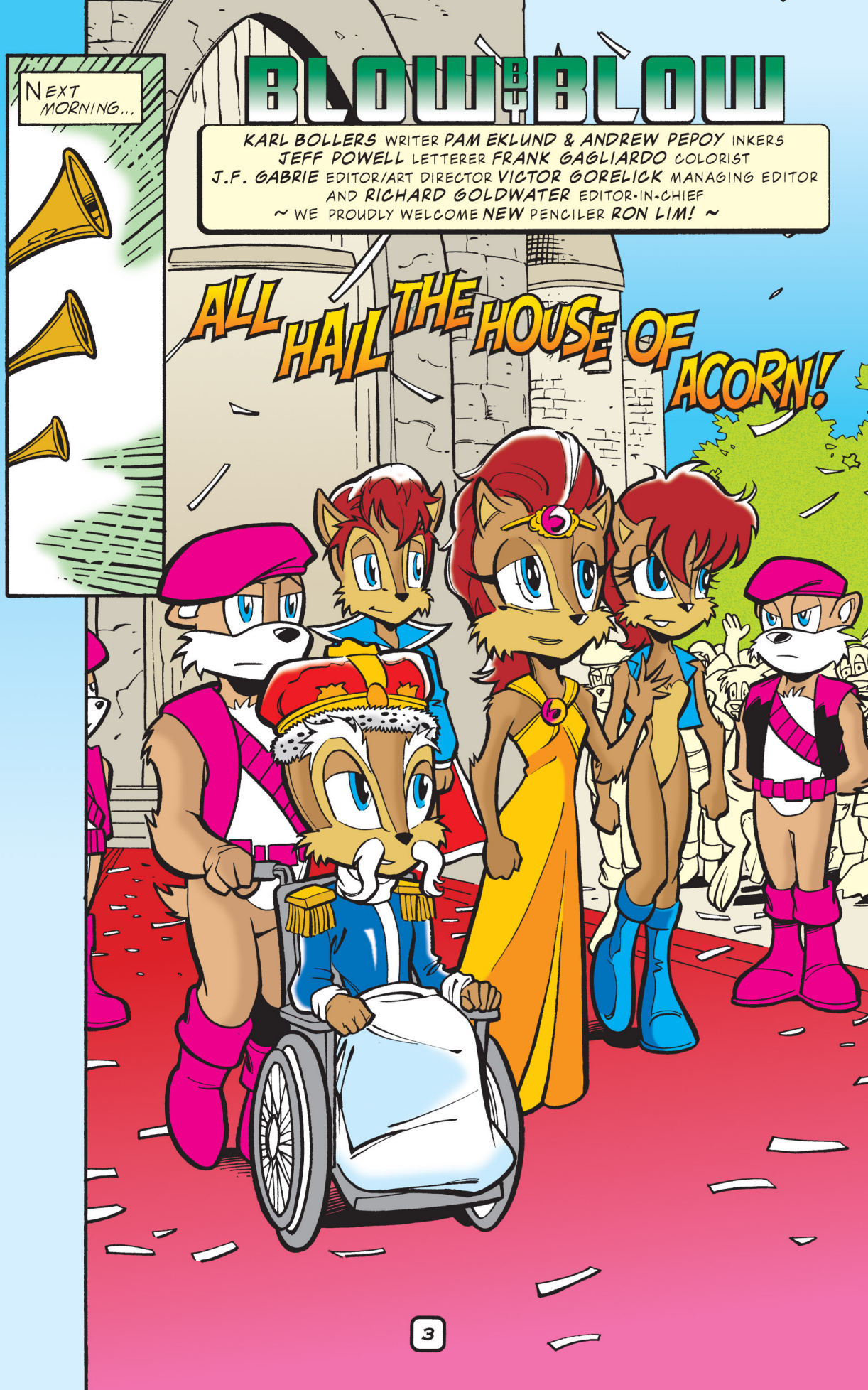
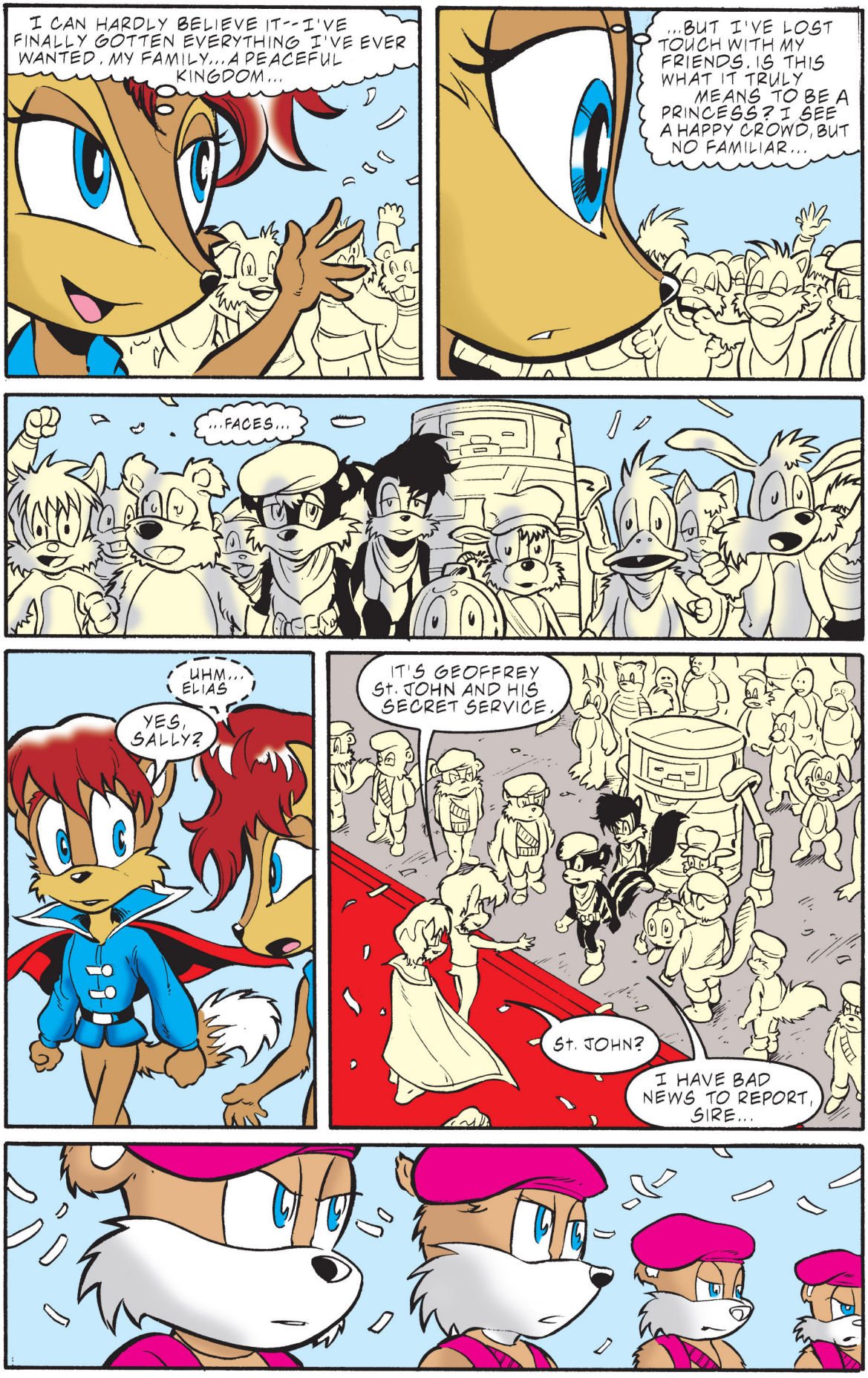
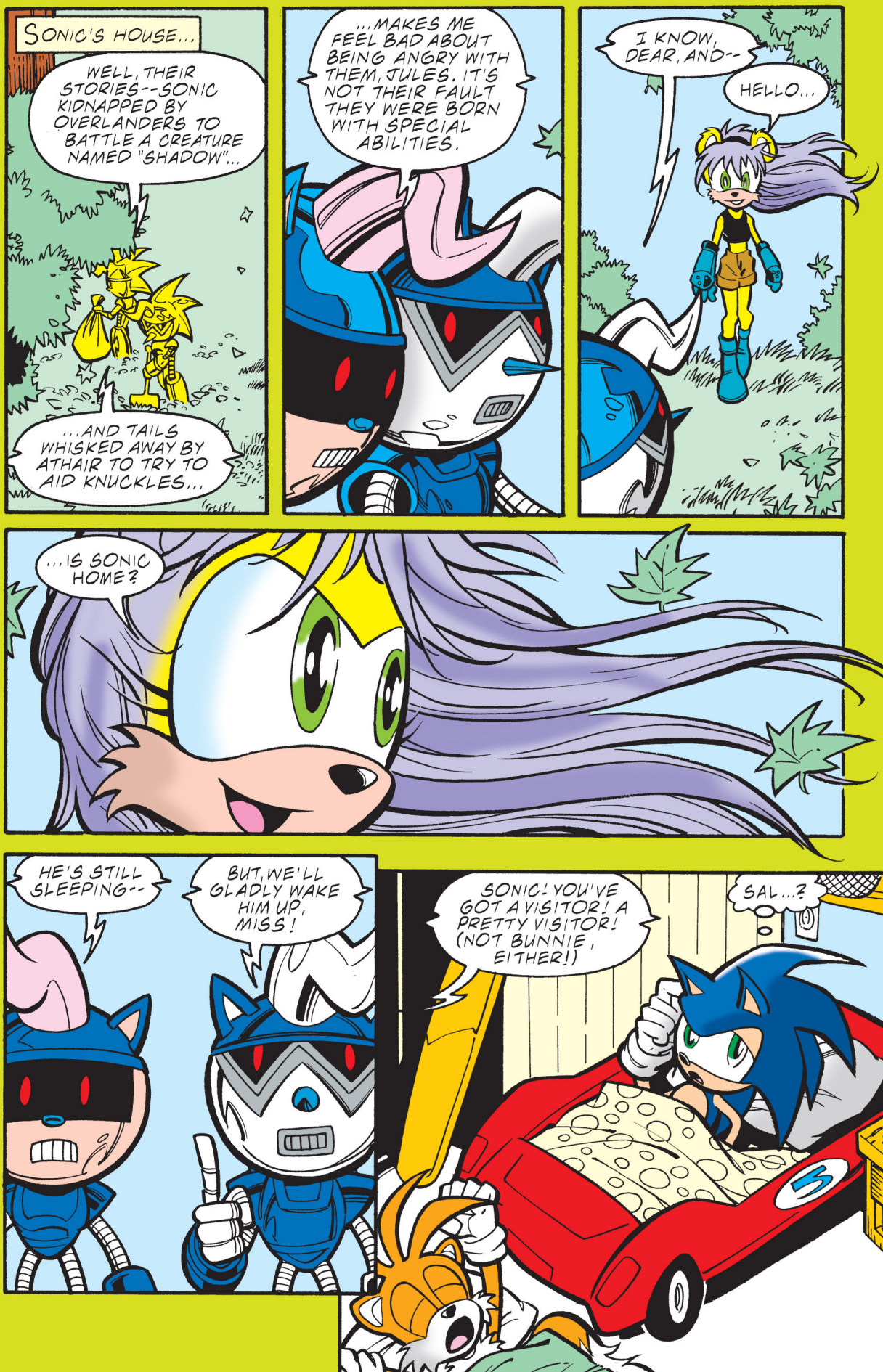
Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO. 99
US $1.99
CAN $2.39
THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SEGA
Anniversary
10TH
SONIC
SPAZHARD
RAY 2001

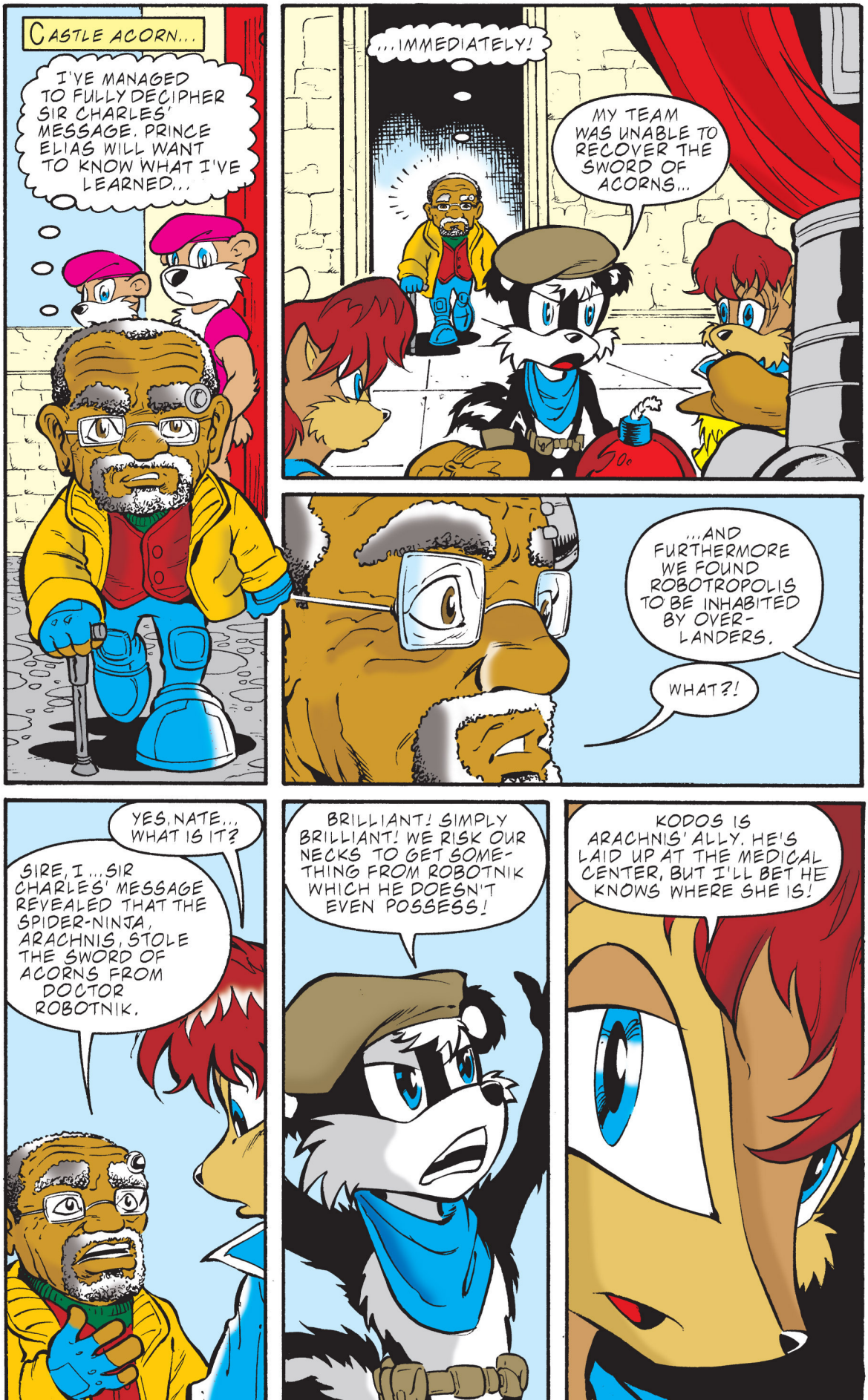

WHAT TIME IS IT?
PRETTY LATE. NOW WE'VE GOTTA BE ABSOLUTELY QUIET!
IT'S WAY PAST BEDTIME AND WE DON'T WANNA WAKE THE--

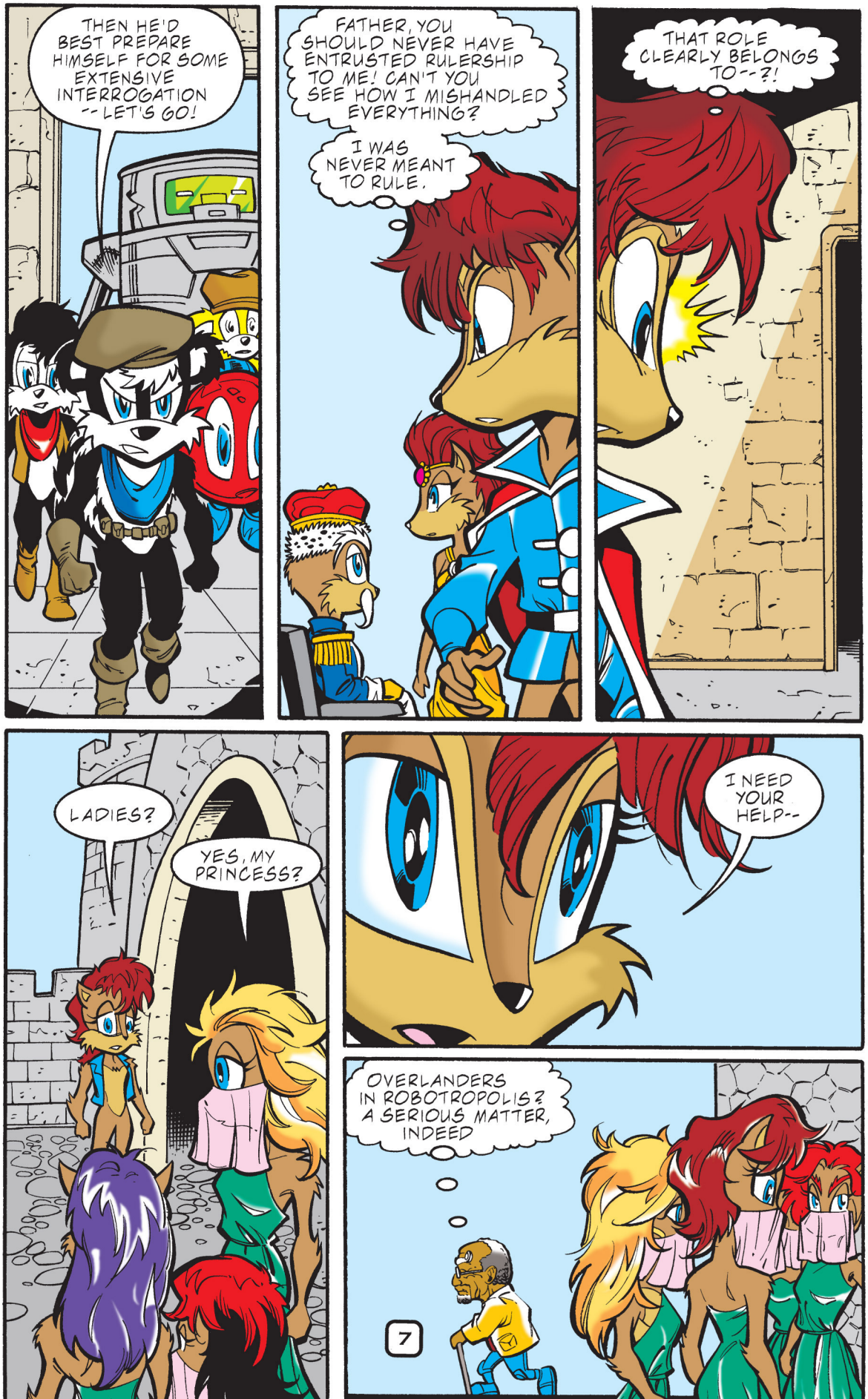

--'RENTS!
TOO LATE!
SONIC-- WE'VE BEEN WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU!
YOU SNUCK OUT LAST NIGHT, AND TAILS --WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE YESTERDAY!
WE HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE, SON--
MILES, EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NOT MY SON, I THINK OF YOU AS SONIC'S LITTLE BROTHER.
NOW, WHERE HAVE YOU BOYS BEEN?
I'LL GO FIRST.

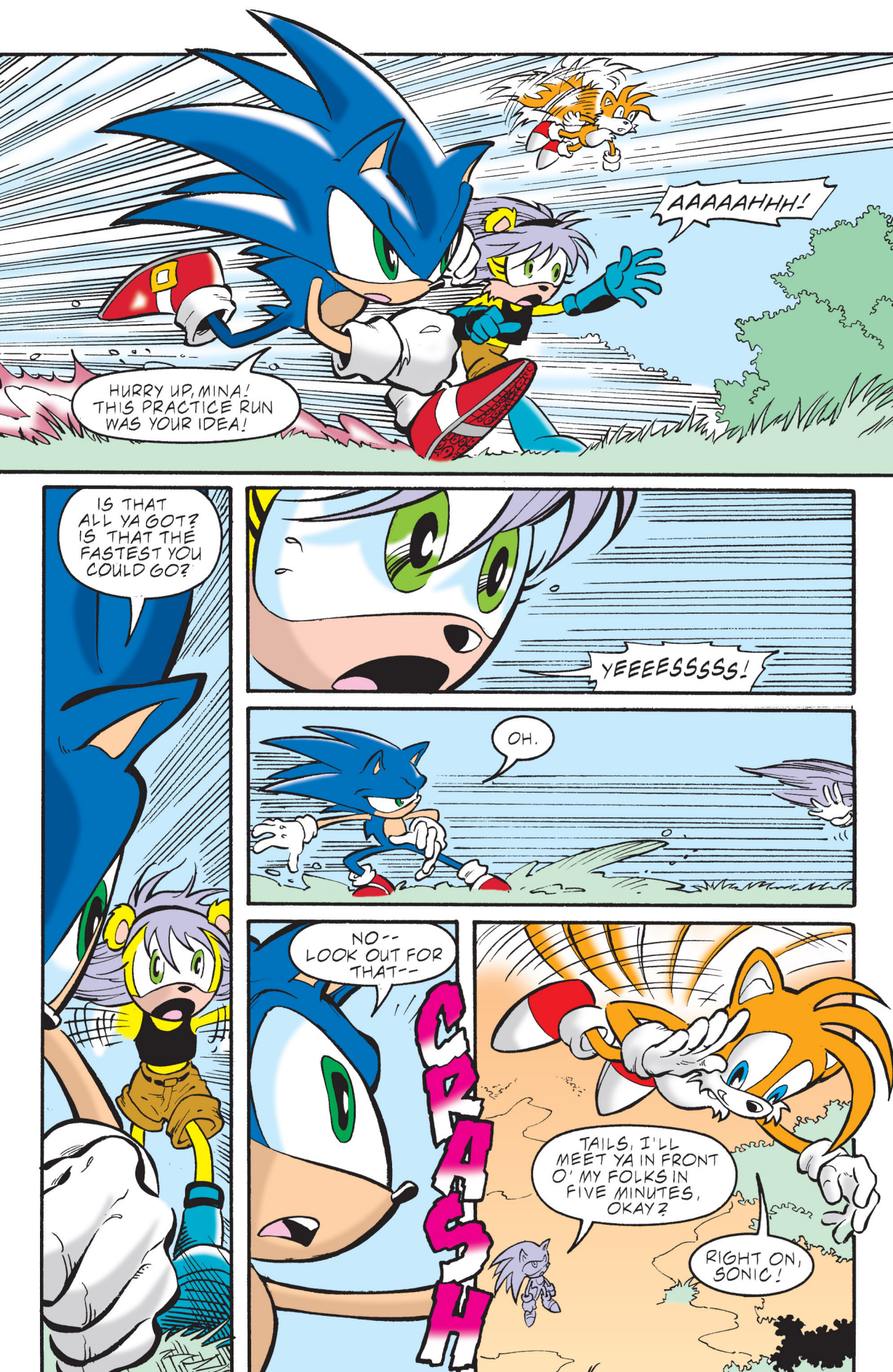

NEXT MORNING...
BLOW BY BLOW
KARL BOLLERS WRITER PAM EKLUND & ANDREW PEPOY INKERS
JEFF POWELL LETTERER FRANK GAGLIARDO COLORIST
J.F. GABRIE EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR VICTOR GORELICK MANAGING EDITOR
AND RICHARD GOLDWATER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
~ WE PROUDLY WELCOME NEW PENCILER RON LIM! ~
ALL HAIL THE HOUSE OF ACORN!

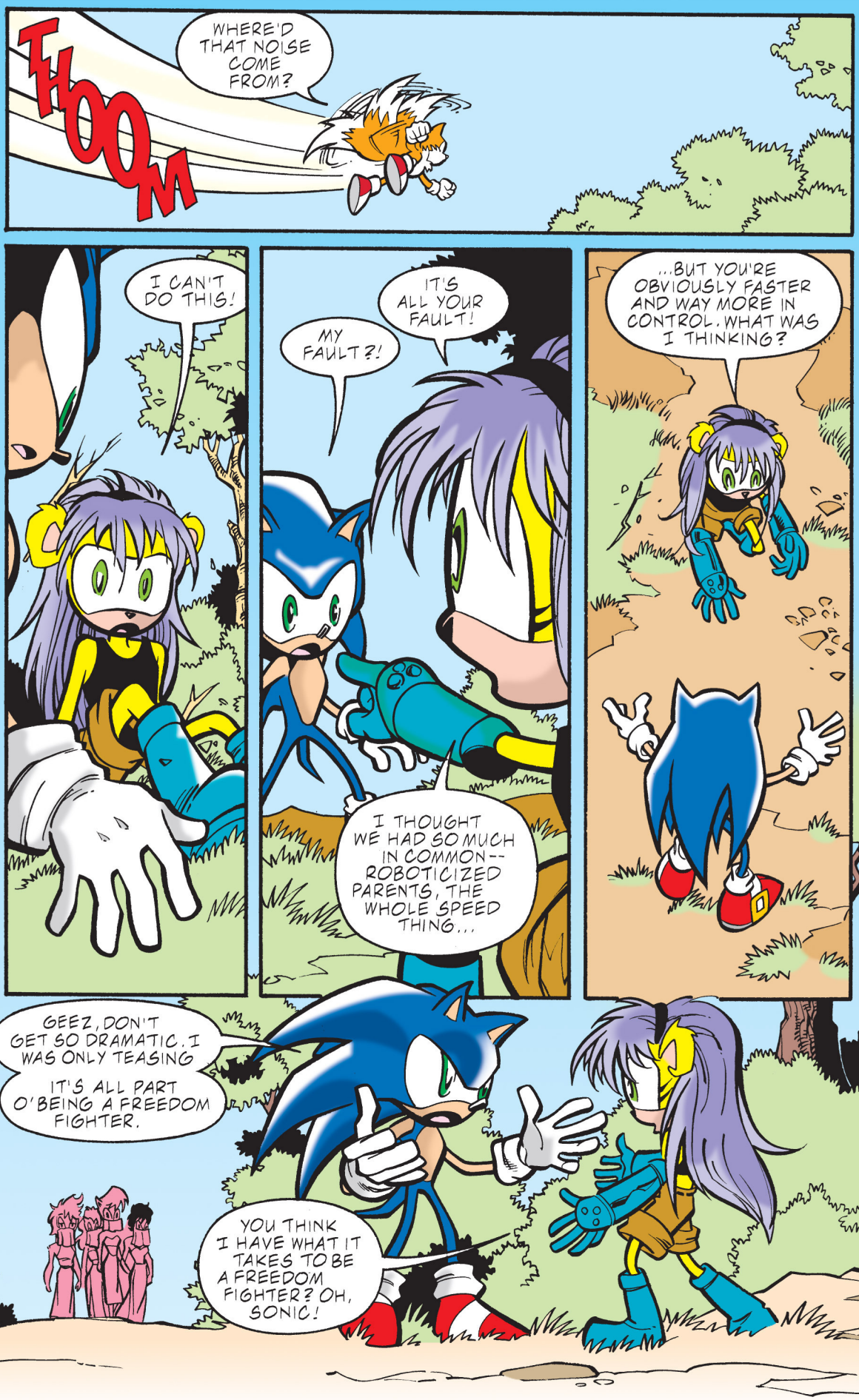

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT--I'VE FINALLY GOTTEN EVERYTHING I'VE EVER WANTED. MY FAMILY... A PEACEFUL KINGDOM...
...BUT I'VE LOST TOUCH WITH MY FRIENDS. IS THIS WHAT IT TRULY MEANS TO BE A PRINCESS? I SEE A HAPPY CROWD, BUT NO FAMILIAR...
...FACES...
UHM... ELIAS
YES, SALLY?
IT'S GEOFFREY St. JOHN AND HIS SECRET SERVICE.
St. JOHN?
I HAVE BAD NEWS TO REPORT, SIRE...

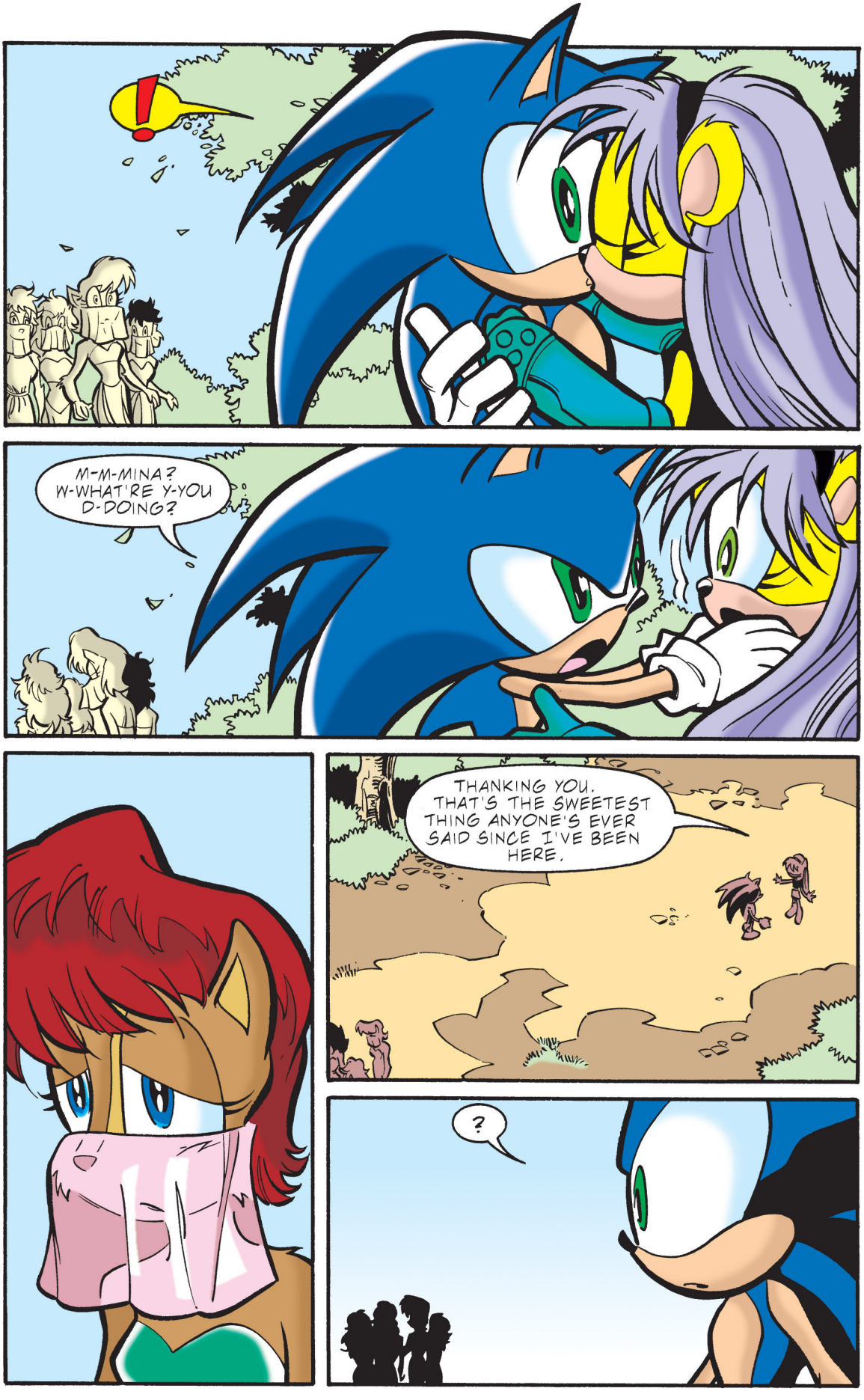

SONIC'S HOUSE...
WELL, THEIR STORIES--SONIC KIDNAPPED BY OVERLANDERS TO BATTLE A CREATURE NAMED "SHADOW"...
...AND TAILS WHISKED AWAY BY ATHAIR TO TRY TO AID KNUCKLES...
...MAKES ME FEEL BAD ABOUT BEING ANGRY WITH THEM, JULES. IT'S NOT THEIR FAULT THEY WERE BORN WITH SPECIAL ABILITIES.
I KNOW, DEAR, AND--
HELLO...
...IS SONIC HOME?
HE'S STILL SLEEPING--
BUT, WE'LL GLADLY WAKE HIM UP, MISS!
SONIC! YOU'VE GOT A VISITOR! A PRETTY VISITOR! (NOT BUNNIE, EITHER!)
SAL...?

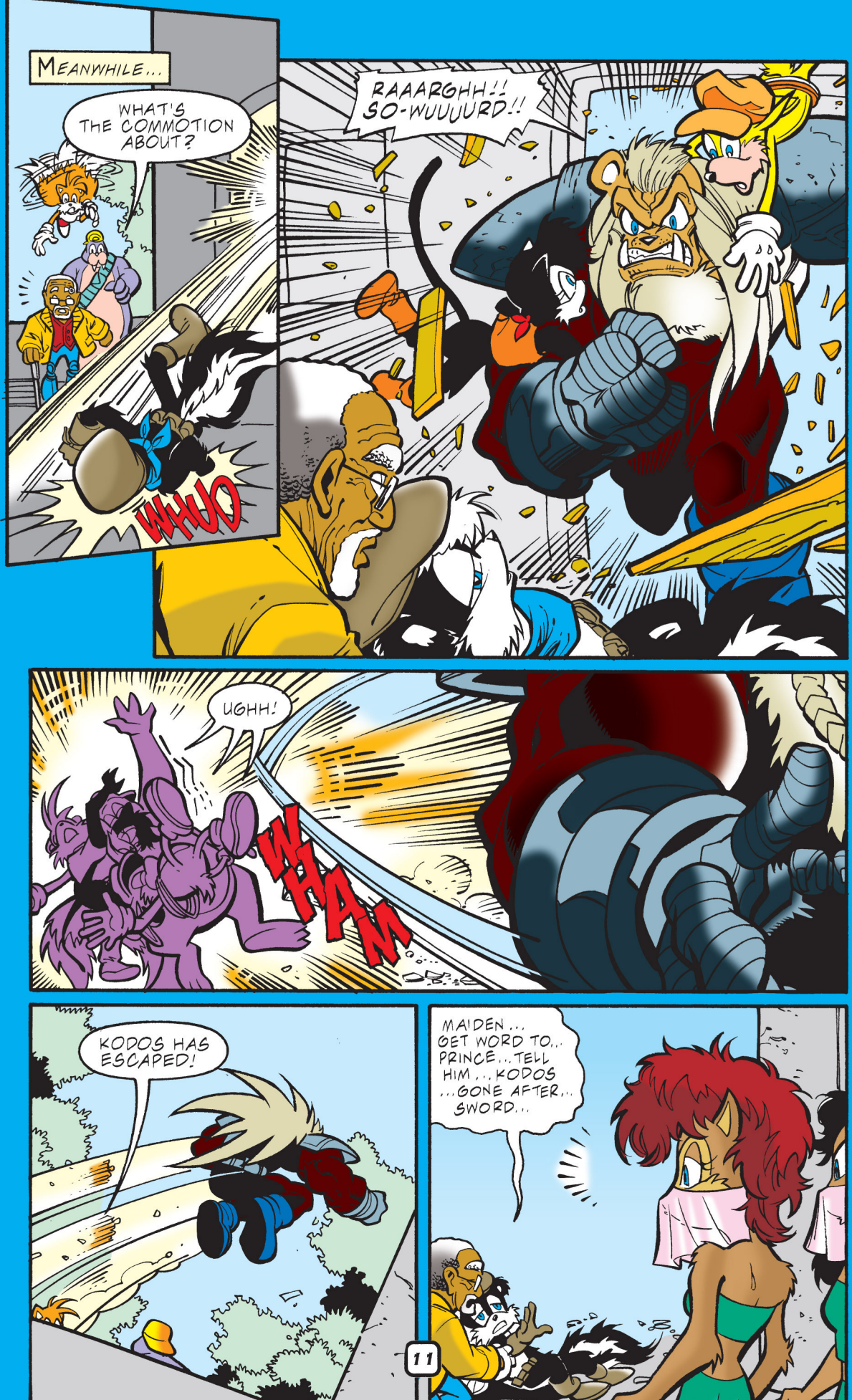

CASTLE ACORN...
I'VE MANAGED TO FULLY DECIPHER SIR CHARLES' MESSAGE. PRINCE ELIAS WILL WANT TO KNOW WHAT I'VE LEARNED...
...IMMEDIATELY!
MY TEAM WAS UNABLE TO RECOVER THE SWORD OF ACORNS...
...AND FURTHERMORE WE FOUND ROBOTROPOLIS TO BE INHABITED BY OVER-LANDERS.
WHAT?!
YES, NATE... WHAT IS IT?
SIRE, I... SIR CHARLES' MESSAGE REVEALED THAT THE SPIDER-NINJA, ARACHNIS, STOLE THE SWORD OF ACORNS FROM DOCTOR ROBOTNIK.
BRILLIANT! SIMPLY BRILLIANT! WE RISK OUR NECKS TO GET SOMETHING FROM ROBOTNIK WHICH HE DOESN'T EVEN POSSESS!
KODOS IS ARACHNIS' ALLY. HE'S LAID UP AT THE MEDICAL CENTER, BUT I'LL BET HE KNOWS WHERE SHE IS!


THEN HE'D BEST PREPARE HIMSELF FOR SOME EXTENSIVE INTERROGATION -- LET'S GO!
FATHER, YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE ENTRUSTED RULERSHIP TO ME! CAN'T YOU SEE HOW I MISHANDLED EVERYTHING?
I WAS NEVER MEANT TO RULE.
THAT ROLE CLEARLY BELONGS TO--?!
LADIES?
YES, MY PRINCESS?
I NEED YOUR HELP--
OVERLANDERS IN ROBOTROPOLIS? A SERIOUS MATTER, INDEED
7


HURRY UP, MINA! THIS PRACTICE RUN WAS YOUR IDEA!
AAAAAHHH!
IS THAT ALL YA GOT? IS THAT THE FASTEST YOU COULD GO?
YEEEESSSSS!
OH.
NO-- LOOK OUT FOR THAT--
CRASH
TAILS, I'LL MEET YA IN FRONT O' MY FOLKS IN FIVE MINUTES, OKAY?
RIGHT ON, SONIC!

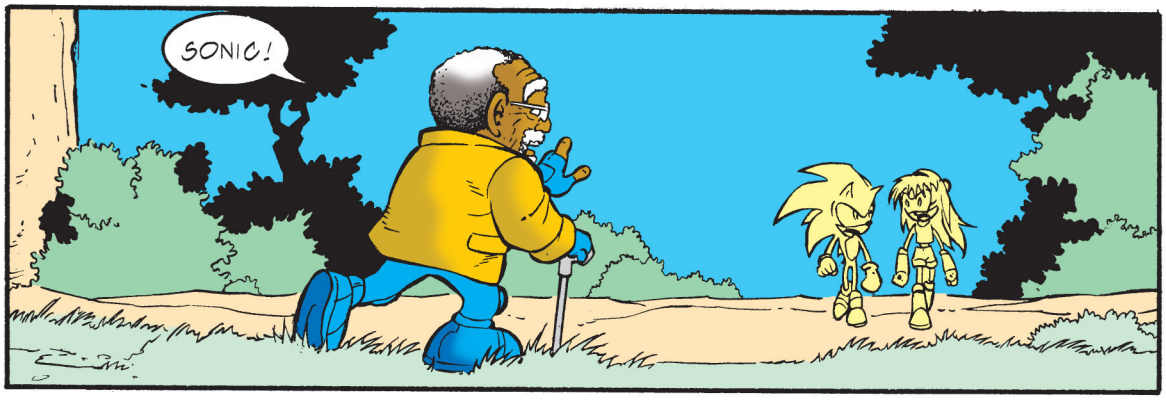

THOOM
WHERE'D THAT NOISE COME FROM?
I CAN'T DO THIS!
MY FAULT?!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
I THOUGHT WE HAD SO MUCH IN COMMON-- ROBOTICIZED PARENTS, THE WHOLE SPEED THING...
...BUT YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY FASTER AND WAY MORE IN CONTROL. WHAT WAS I THINKING?
GEEZ, DON'T GET SO DRAMATIC. I WAS ONLY TEASING
IT'S ALL PART O' BEING A FREEDOM FIGHTER.
YOU THINK I HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A FREEDOM FIGHTER? OH, SONIC!

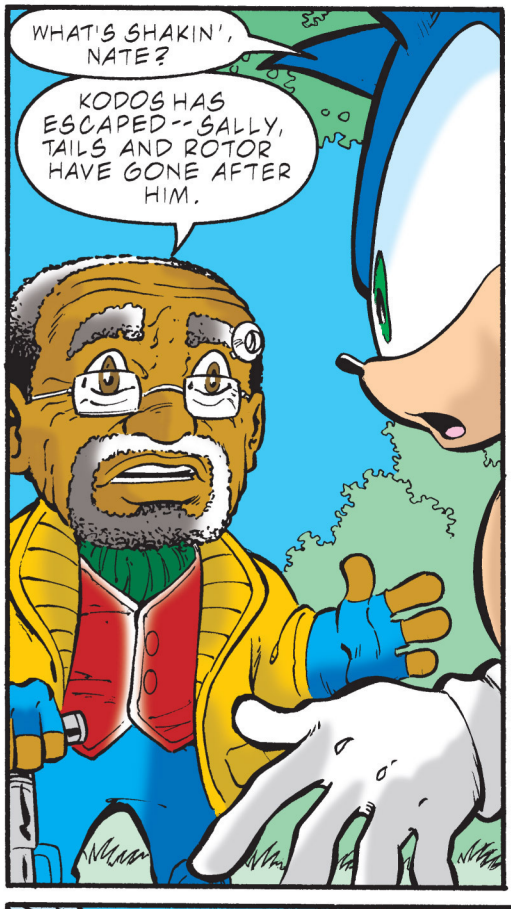

M-M-MINA? W-WHAT'RE Y-YOU D-DOING?
THANKING YOU. THAT'S THE SWEETEST THING ANYONE'S EVER SAID SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE.
?

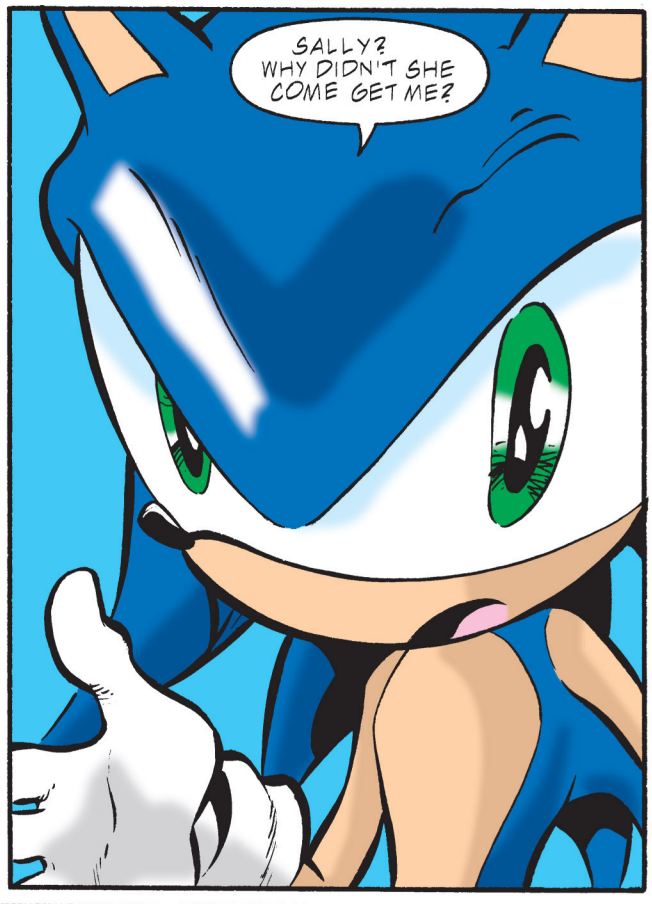

MEANWHILE...
WHAT'S THE COMMOTION ABOUT?
WHUO
RAAARGHH!! SO-WUUUURD!!
UGHH!
WHAM
KODOS HAS ESCAPED!
MAIDEN... GET WORD TO... PRINCE... TELL HIM... KODOS ...GONE AFTER... SWORD...

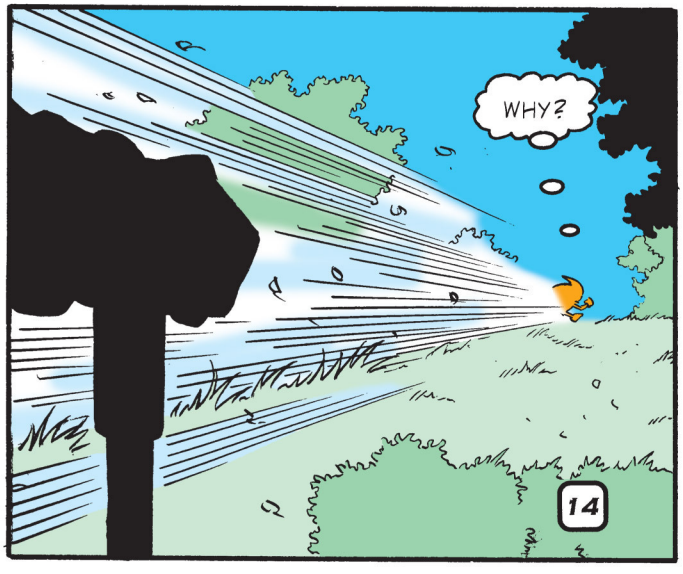
...UGNN...
THAT DOES IT.
AUNT SALLY?
DOCTOR QUACK-- THESE AGENTS NEED FIXING AND WHAT'S HAPPENED TO KODOS?
HE'S INSANE-- THE RESULT OF PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO HARMFUL TOXINS IN ROBOTROPOLIS.
WITHOUT MEDICAL TREATMENT, HE WOULD HAVE DIED...
DIED?
I'M GOING AFTER HIM.
NO... IT'S TOO LATE. LET'S GET MOVING...
SHOULDN'T WE GET SONIC? IT'LL BE JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.

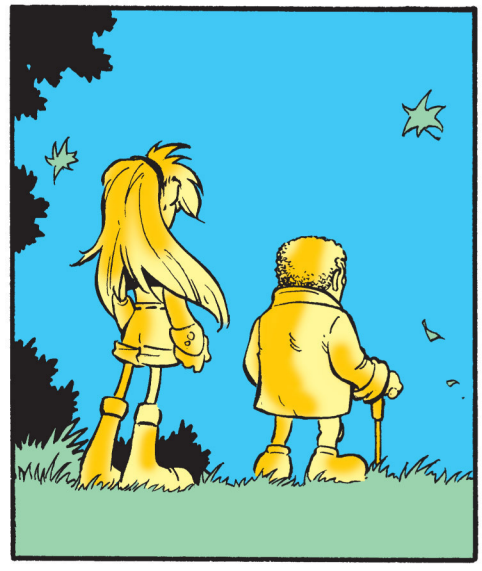
...BEFORE WE LOSE HIM.
OH, MY...
MINUTES LATER...
WE CAN COVER MORE GROUND BY SPLITTING UP.
YOU'RE RIGHT-- TAILS WILL SIGNAL US IF HE SEES ANYTHING FROM ABOVE.
WHA--?
ARACHNIS? DID KODOS DO THIS TO YOU?
Listen to me, Princess...
WHAT? YOU CAN TALK?

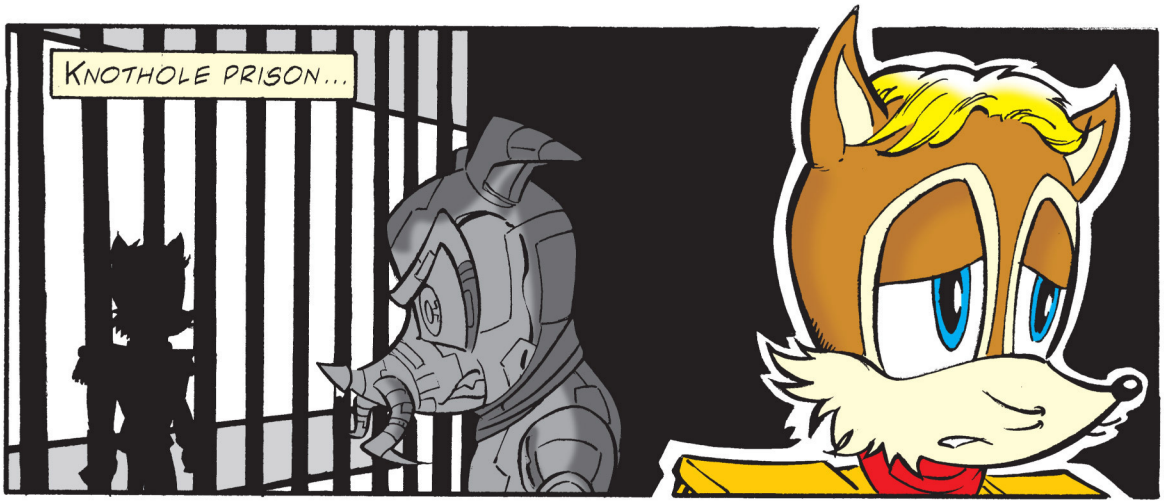

SONIC!

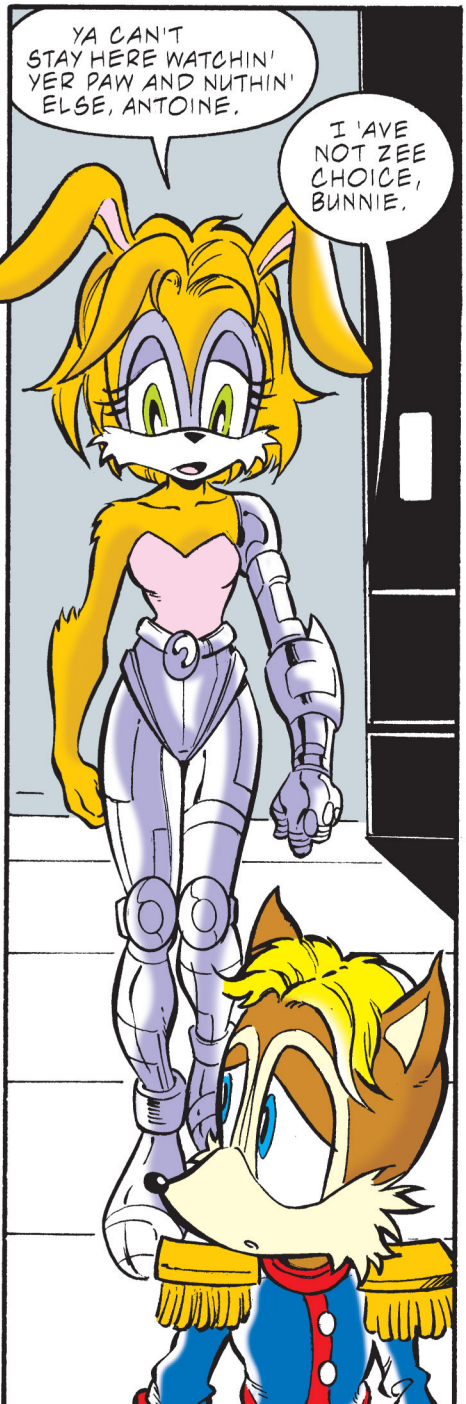

WHAT'S SHAKIN', NATE?
KODOS HAS ESCAPED--SALLY, TAILS AND ROTOR HAVE GONE AFTER HIM.

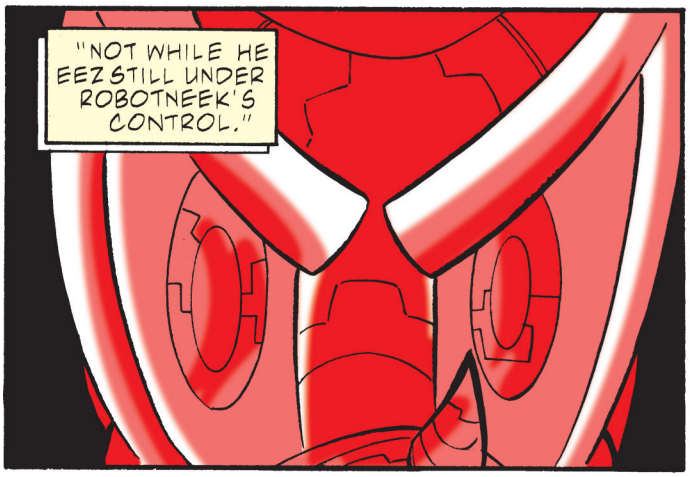

SALLY? WHY DIDN'T SHE COME GET ME?

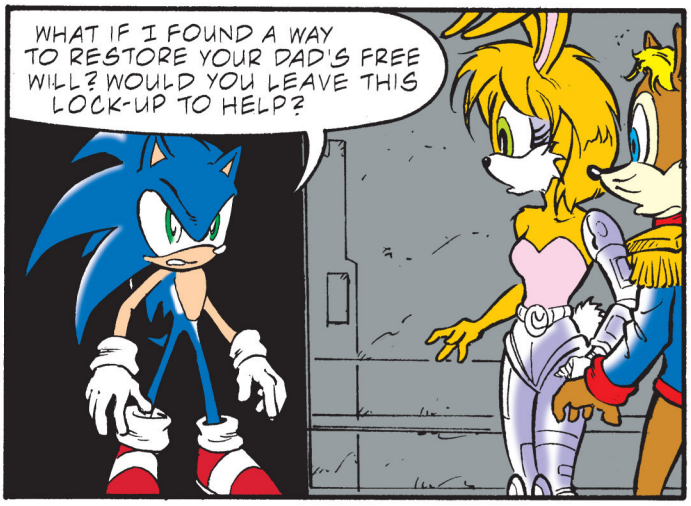

WHY?
14

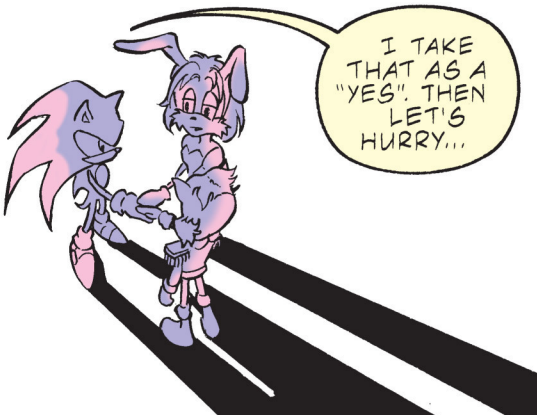



KNOTHOLE PRISON...


YA CAN'T STAY HERE WATCHIN' YER PAW AND NUTHIN' ELSE, ANTOINE.
I 'AVE NOT ZEE CHOICE, BUNNIE.

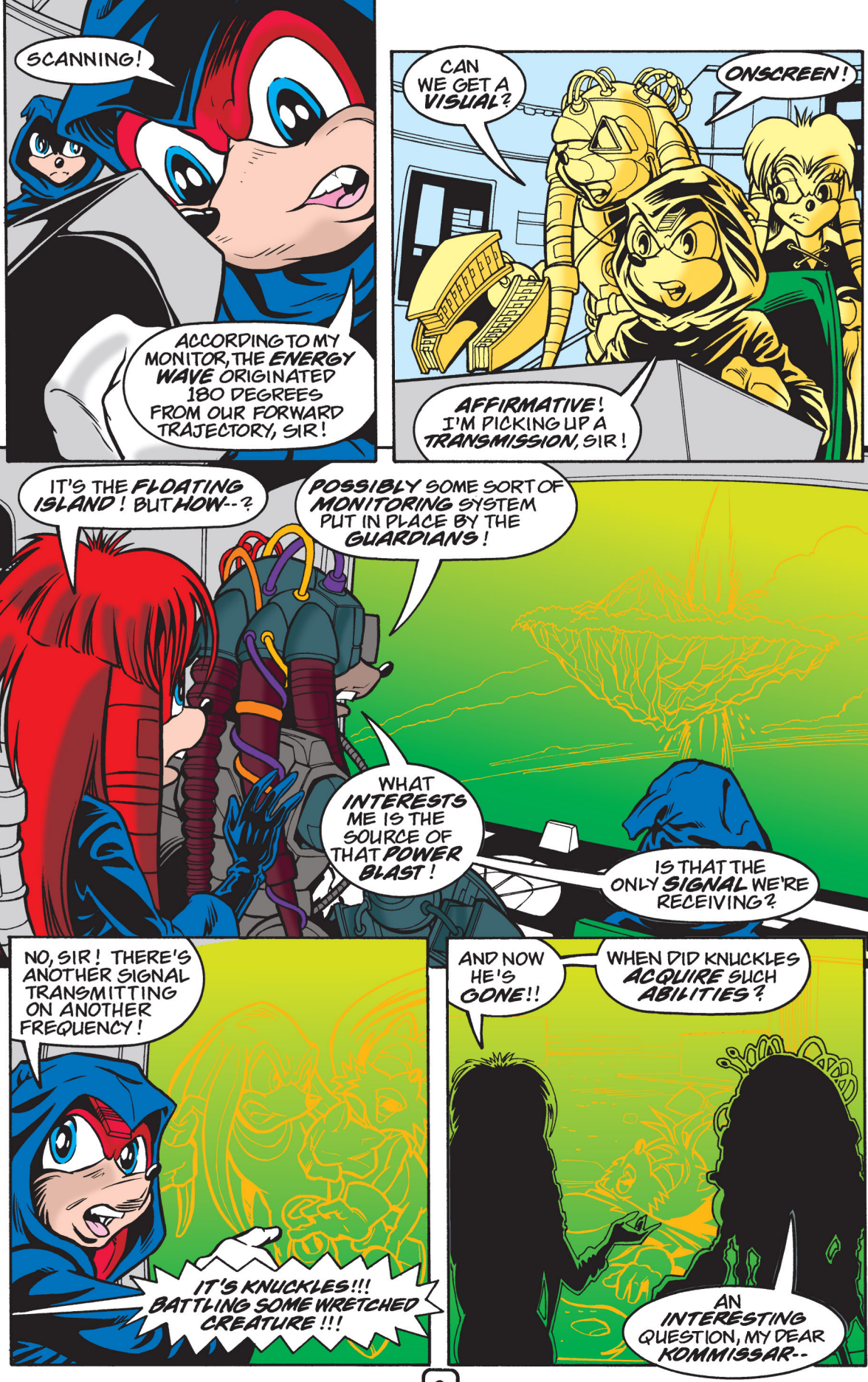

"NOT WHILE HE EEZ STILL UNDER ROBOTNEEK'S CONTROL."

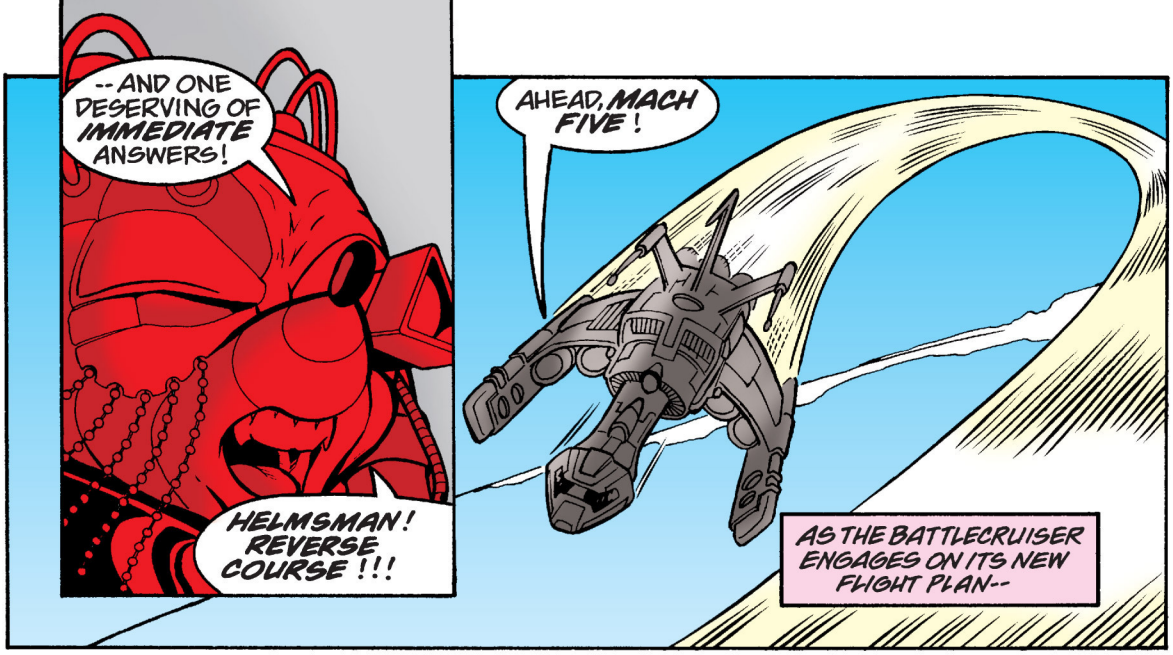

WHAT IF I FOUND A WAY TO RESTORE YOUR DAD'S FREE WILL? WOULD YOU LEAVE THIS LOCK-UP TO HELP?

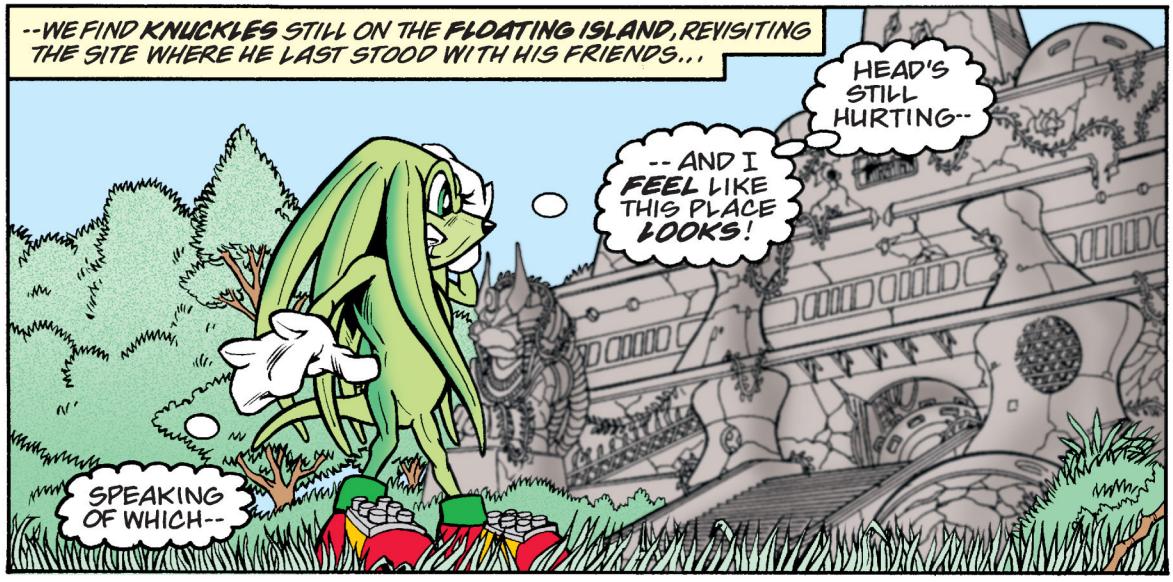

I TAKE THAT AS A "YES". THEN LET'S HURRY...

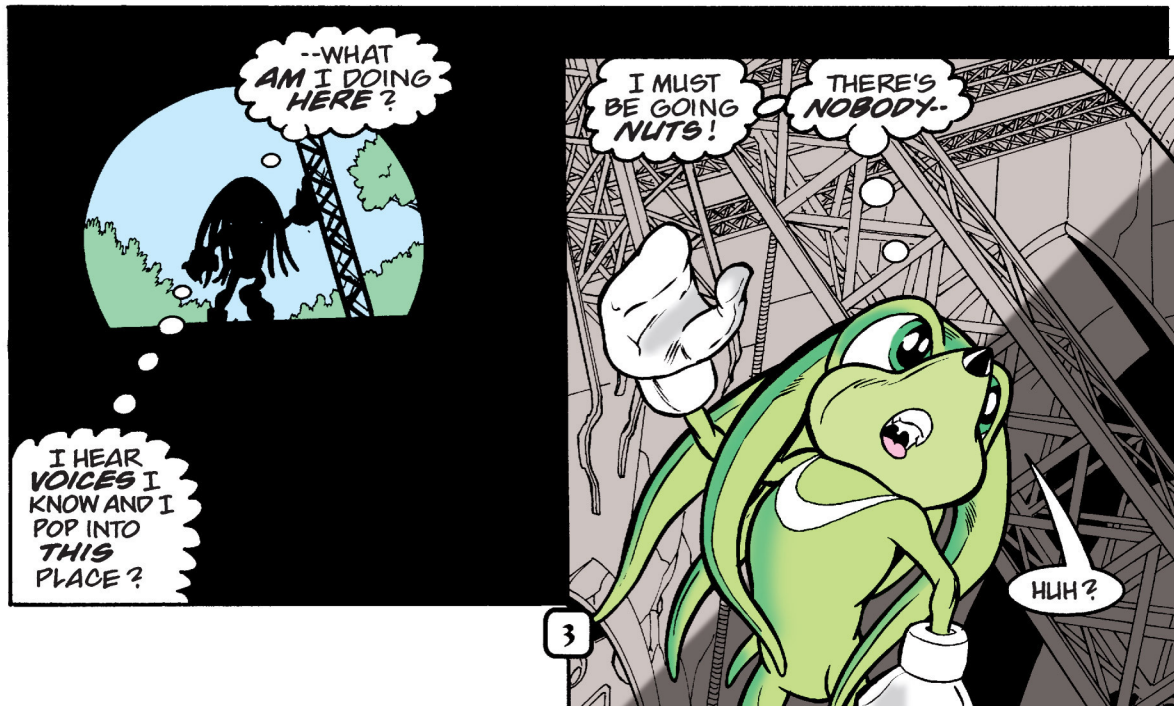
--THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME!
NEXT:100!

HE WAS BORN TO BE NONE OTHER THAN THE GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, BUT NOW
KNUCKLES™ THE ECHIDNA
IS ALL ON HIS OWN, IN SEARCH OF HIS LOVED ONES.
WHAT HE DOESN'T KNOW IS THAT HIS DEADLIEST ENEMIES ARE STILL AT LARGE AS WELL.
AT THIS MOMENT, ABOARD THEIR AIRBORNE BATTLECRUISER, THE DREADED DIMITRI AND HIS DARK LEGIONNAIRES ARE EXPERIENCING A BIT OF UNEXPECTED TURBULENCE...
BY THE CHAOS EMERALD, PILOT--
--WHY HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY TAKEN EVASIVE ACTION?!!
THE SHOCKWAVE CAME OUT OF NOWHERE, SIR!
THERE WAS NO INDICATION ON ANY OF THE FORWARD SENSORS!
HOW ABOUT OTHER INDICATORS? TACTICAL?!
WHAT COMES AROUND GOES AROUND
Another Sega-Inspired Epic As Related By
KEN PENDERS- WRITER AND ARTIST V. WILLIAMS- LETTERER
FRANK GAGLIARDO- COLORIST JUSTIN F. GABRIE- EDITOR

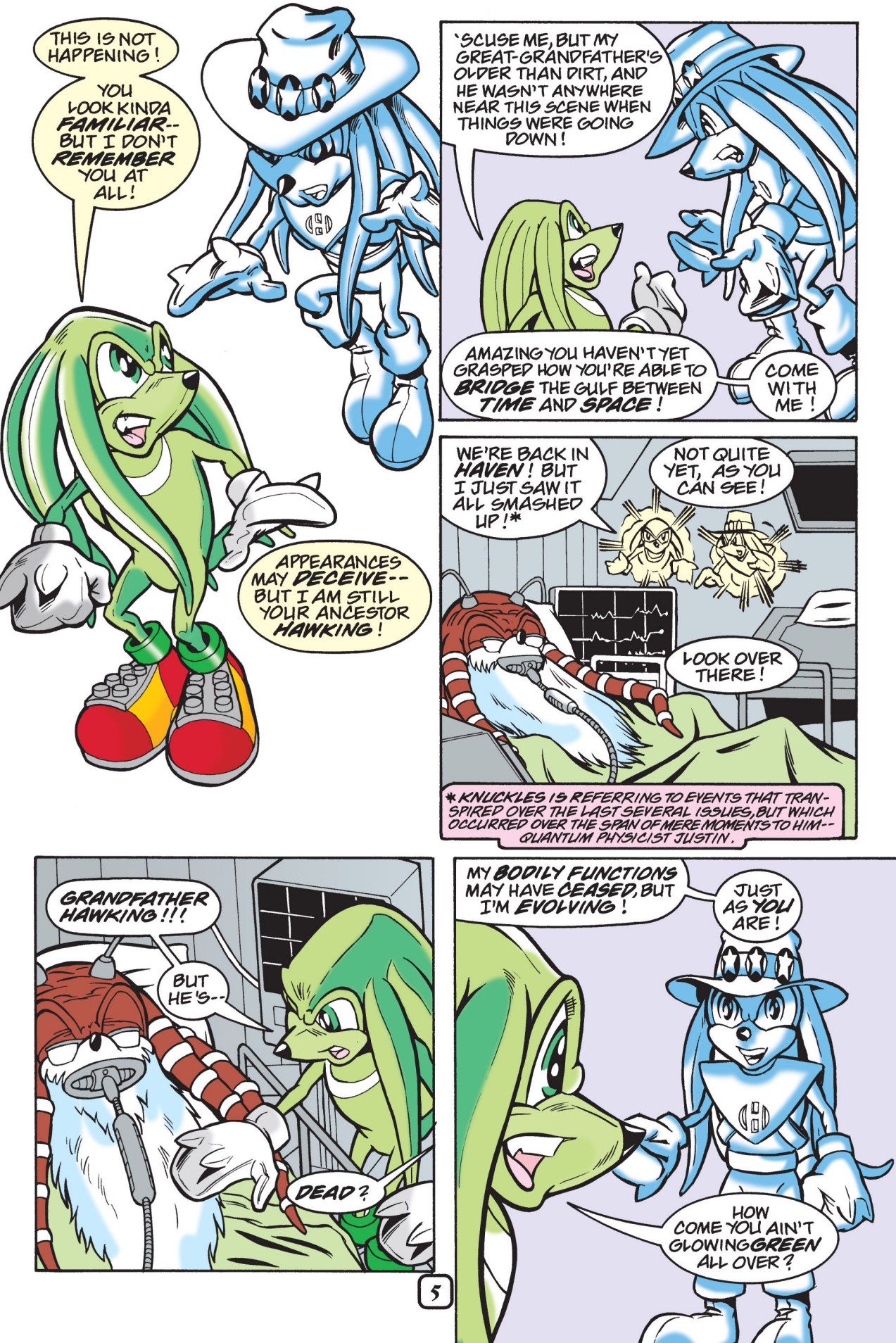

SCANNING!
ACCORDING TO MY MONITOR, THE ENERGY WAVE ORIGINATED 180 DEGREES FROM OUR FORWARD TRAJECTORY, SIR!
CAN WE GET A VISUAL?
ONSCREEN!
AFFIRMATIVE! I'M PICKING UP A TRANSMISSION, SIR!
IT'S THE FLOATING ISLAND! BUT HOW--?
POSSIBLY SOME SORT OF MONITORING SYSTEM PUT IN PLACE BY THE GUARDIANS!
WHAT INTERESTS ME IS THE SOURCE OF THAT POWER BLAST!
IS THAT THE ONLY SIGNAL WE'RE RECEIVING?
NO, SIR! THERE'S ANOTHER SIGNAL TRANSMITTING ON ANOTHER FREQUENCY!
IT'S KNUCKLES!!! BATTLING SOME WRETCHED CREATURE!!!
AND NOW HE'S GONE!!
WHEN DID KNUCKLES ACQUIRE SUCH ABILITIES?
AN INTERESTING QUESTION, MY DEAR KOMMISSAR--


-- AND ONE DESERVING OF IMMEDIATE ANSWERS!
HELMSMAN! REVERSE COURSE!!!
AHEAD, MACH FIVE!
AS THE BATTLECRUISER ENGAGES ON ITS NEW FLIGHT PLAN--

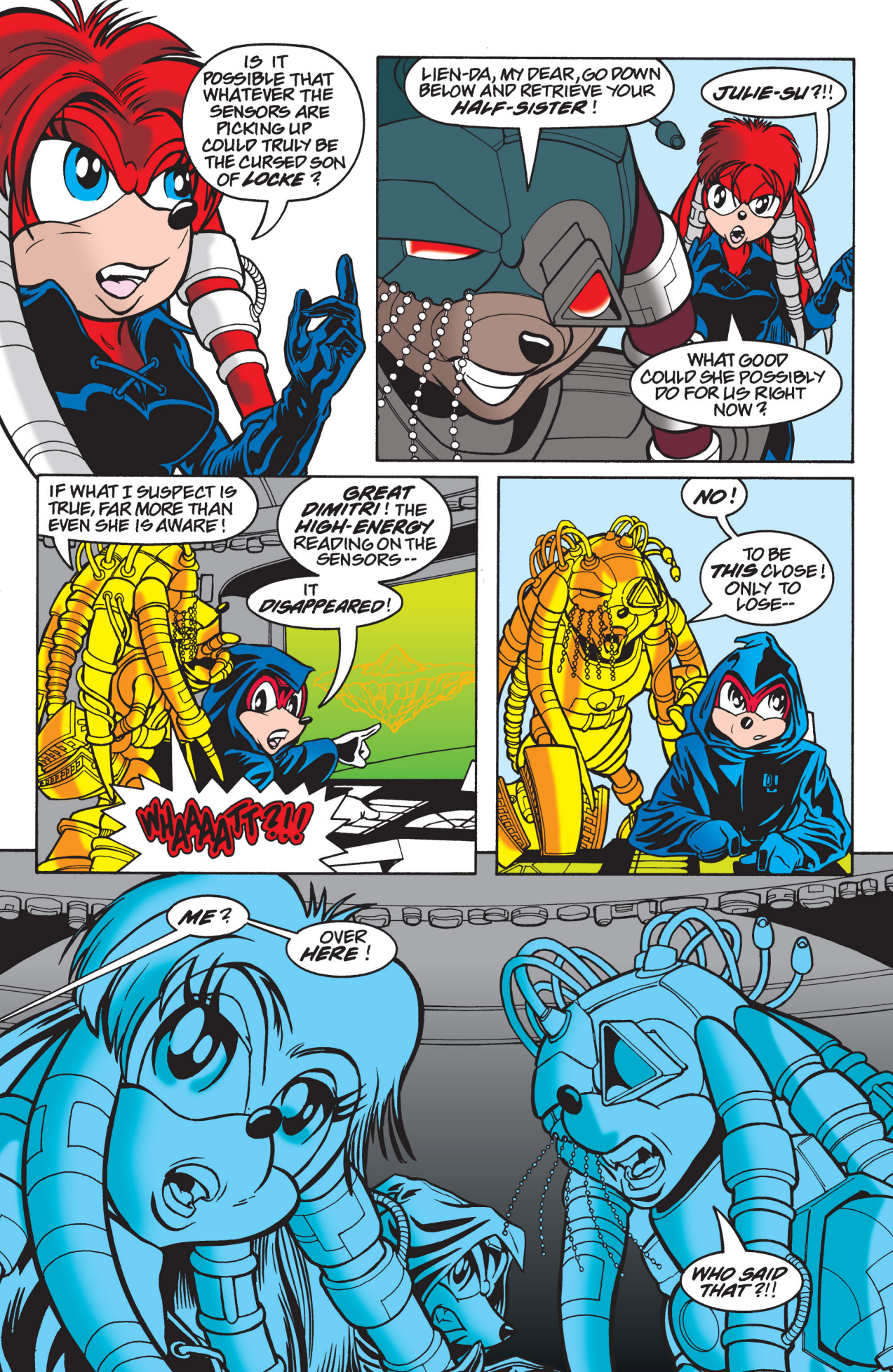

--WE FIND KNUCKLES STILL ON THE FLOATING ISLAND, REVISITING THE SITE WHERE HE LAST STOOD WITH HIS FRIENDS...
HEAD'S STILL HURTING--
-- AND I FEEL LIKE THIS PLACE LOOKS!
SPEAKING OF WHICH--


--WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
I HEAR VOICES I KNOW AND I POP INTO THIS PLACE?
I MUST BE GOING NUTS!
THERE'S NOBODY--
HUH?

JULIE-SU!
AND THAT'S ME OVER THERE!
WHOA! I REALLY MUST BE LOSING IT!
LET ME GO, YOU BRAINLESS DRONE!
WHATEVER'S GOING ON HERE--
--THAT'S STILL JULIE-SU--
-- AND SHE'S BEING HASSLED BY SOME HOODED MONKEYS WHO NEED TO BE TAKEN DOWN!
NO!


THIS IS NOT HAPPENING!
YOU LOOK KINDA FAMILIAR-- BUT I DON'T REMEMBER YOU AT ALL!
APPEARANCES MAY DECEIVE-- BUT I AM STILL YOUR ANCESTOR HAWKING!
'SCUSE ME, BUT MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S OLDER THAN DIRT, AND HE WASN'T ANYWHERE NEAR THIS SCENE WHEN THINGS WERE GOING DOWN!
AMAZING YOU HAVEN'T YET GRASPED HOW YOU'RE ABLE TO BRIDGE THE GULF BETWEEN TIME AND SPACE!
COME WITH ME!
WE'RE BACK IN HAVEN! BUT I JUST SAW IT ALL SMASHED UP!*
NOT QUITE YET, AS YOU CAN SEE!
LOOK OVER THERE!
*KNUCKLES IS REFERRING TO EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED OVER THE LAST SEVERAL ISSUES, BUT WHICH OCCURRED OVER THE SPAN OF MERE MOMENTS TO HIM-- QUANTUM PHYSICIST JUSTIN.
GRANDFATHER HAWKING!!!
BUT HE'S--
DEAD?
MY BODILY FUNCTIONS MAY HAVE CEASED, BUT I'M EVOLVING!
JUST AS YOU ARE!
HOW COME YOU AIN'T GLOWING GREEN ALL OVER?

I AM NOT YOU! I HAVE ANOTHER PATH TO TRAVEL!
DON'T I HAVE A SAY IN ANY OF THIS?
DID THE CATERPILLAR BEFORE BECOMING A BUTTERFLY?
GREAT.
JUST LIKE THAT -- HE'S GONE!
I CAN ALREADY HEAR MIGHTY SAYING--
"TOUGH COOKIES, KNUX!"
AT LEAST I DON'T HURT LIKE BEFORE!
I WONDER WHY?
"GREAT DIMITRI--"
--THE SENSORS ARE RECORDING STRONG ENERGY TRANSMISSIONS EMANATING FROM THE FLOATING ISLAND!
THE POINT-OF-ORIGIN IS HAVEN, NO LESS!


IS IT POSSIBLE THAT WHATEVER THE SENSORS ARE PICKING UP COULD TRULY BE THE CURSED SON OF LOCKE?
LIEN-DA, MY DEAR, GO DOWN BELOW AND RETRIEVE YOUR HALF-SISTER!
JULIE-SU?!!
WHAT GOOD COULD SHE POSSIBLY DO FOR US RIGHT NOW?
IF WHAT I SUSPECT IS TRUE, FAR MORE THAN EVEN SHE IS AWARE!
GREAT DIMITRI! THE HIGH-ENERGY READING ON THE SENSORS--
IT DISAPPEARED!
WHAAAATT?!!
NO!
TO BE THIS CLOSE! ONLY TO LOSE--
ME?
OVER HERE!
WHO SAID THAT?!!

TAKE A GUESS--AND THE FIRST TWO DON'T COUNT!
HOW GOOD OF YOU TO DROP IN, KNUCKLES!
WE HAVE SO MUCH TO DISCUSS!
COULDN'T AGREE MORE!
ANY IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FLOATING ISLAND--
--OR WHERE MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE?
NEXT ISSUE: KNUCKLES... A DARK LEGIONNAIRE? SAY IT AIN'T SO!
WE'LL FIND OUT TOGETHER IN THE LANDMARK #100th ISSUE OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG! THIS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!